

March 6, 1962

Dr. Wendell Stanley
Department of Virology
University of California
Berkeley, California

Dear Dr. Stanley:

I enjoyed meeting your son last week. We had a long talk about messenger and ribosomal RNA and so forth. I was sorry to learn that you had broken your hip and I certainly hope that it is mending properly and not giving too much trouble. I also decided not to go to Phoenix because of the pressure of work.

I must apologize for having taken these last few months to come to a decision. Needless to say I have very seriously considered the position at Berkeley from many angles. It was difficult to make a decision because the various possibilities were almost equally good. However, I believe it would be best for me to remain at NIH. The major reason for this choice is that I am primarily interested in research and felt hesitant about devoting part of my time to teaching. I wanted to leave NIH because adequate space and technical help were not available to me. However, I learned today that some more space, help and a promotion will be available to me at NIH and these factors were the deciding ones. The position here in many respects is equivalent to the one in your department.

I very much appreciate your interest and willingness to take me into your department. I am glad, at least, that I had the opportunity of meeting you and I look forward to seeing you again soon.

Respectfully yours,

Marshall W. Nirenberg

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